

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
22710 E COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE
7:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION

Given by Council Member Jenkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Van Orman, City Council and Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Jenkins
Mayor Pro Tem Sayrs
Council Member Owens
Council Member Crump
Council Member Schuler
Council Member Olander
Council Member Langford

Doug Smith, Director, Community Dev.
Cindy Smith, City Clerk
Sergeant Clint Gibson
Sean Boutz, City Attorney

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Pro Tem Sayrs moved to remove Resolution No. 08-115 from the Agenda, seconded by Council Member Langford. Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion approved as amended. In Favor: Unanimous; Opposed: None

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Member Crump moved to accept the City Council Meeting Minutes from February 19, 2008, seconded by Council Member Langford. Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion approved. In Favor: Unanimous; Opposed: None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Crump reported the Finance Committee had met and reviewed vouchers. He stated the committee was starting to look at preliminary drafts on ethics and personnel manual standards, reviewed several items on the Agenda, and upcoming training on water issues.

Council Member Jenkins reported that the Community Development Committee had met and reviewed the draft resolution supporting the TIF priorities for funding of the interchange, water and sewer affiliated with that, roads that support the retail development, and a community sports complex. He stated a resolution is being written and the committee intends to have that as part of the presentation for the next council meeting. The committee also reviewed and discussed more elements surrounding LIFT and TIF funding and reimbursement, and requested that the City Council give the Community Development Committee an opportunity to present more education of those funding and reimbursement mechanisms at the second Council meeting in April (15th).

Mayor Van Orman reported on the arboretum landscapes from the nine (9) students at WSU on Friday, February 29th. Of those presented, three to five will be chosen, and from there, one will be chosen for the final design. Mayor Van Orman announced that the S.C.O.P.E. office will have Stephanie Collins from the Spokane County Prosecutor's Office to speak about identity theft on Wednesday, March 5th, and the City of Liberty Lake will be partnering with United Data Security to shred documents on April 18th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Council Member Schuler reported she had attended the Spokane County Redistricting meeting on Friday, and the meeting will be reconvening this Friday, March 7th.

STAFF AND AGENCY REPORTS

Municipal Library

Pamela Mogen reported on the February Municipal Library Report. Discussions continued on library registration matters, how much is spent quarterly, if there is tracking on new patrons cards, and does the Policy Manual of the Library Board of Trustees also cover the employees of library.

Public Safety

Sergeant Clint Gibson highlighted items on the Police Department Report. Council Member Owens expressed her thanks for the police department's participation in the 24 hr. in-service annual training. Other topics discussed were:

- Valley Girls and Kids Triathlons (July 12 – 13)
- Community Yard Sale June 14th
- Reporting juveniles by age difference

Youth Commission

Jenna Peterson gave an update on the Youth Commission activities. Topics discussed were:

- Youth Leadership Night at the Valley Hub on January 22nd
- Tracy Rebstock is the lead advisor
- Received four (4) new applications
- All Fools Hunt at Trailhead Golf Course on March 29th
 - Registrations being taken on March 15th, 17th, and 20th
 - Assistant volunteers for S.C.O.P.E.
 - Partnering with Valley Hub

City Staff

Doug Smith stated a written report was included in the packet and asked for any questions. Council Member Crump inquired about street sweeping. Doug Smith replied that Rich Peplinski is starting his quarterly street sweeping on Sundays, and is staging the street sweeping with rain events so there is dust control.

Sewer and Water District

Commissioner Frank Boyle gave an update on the partnering with Airway Heights on Sewer Effluent Cleansing Tests. He stated the Sewer District will end up with 6 different processes, and out of that they should be able to find the best to serve the public.

Fire Department

Assistant Chief Larry Rider gave an update on the latest incidents within the City. He announced there had been 18 incidents in February, the roads were clear so chaining costs have gone down, the runoff went slowly, and construction to bidders will go out tomorrow for the Fire Station 9 at Pines and 32nd.

Council Member Jenkins asked if the City Council could get a report on all 2007 incidents happening in the City of Liberty Lake. Assistant Chief Rider replied the department has mostly medical (321), but it can break those down into dispatch codes. Discussion continued on the area the Fire District covered, the restraints on the Harvard Road and Barker Road bridges, and response times.

PRESENTATION

Commissioner Todd Mielke introduced, Commissioner Mark Richard, Fire Chief Bobby Williams, and Chuck Hafner. Commissioner Mielke said the purpose of the presentation is for a Resolution sponsored by Spokane County for Emergency Communications. He explained the history of the ballot measure and the data that the different jurisdictions need to be prepared to answer. Commissioner Mielke said the first and foremost priority was to try to keep our citizens safe. When people call 9-1-1, more often than not, they will receive a recording rather than a live body. This is causing delays and busy signals, and there are dead spots throughout Spokane County between law enforcement, fire, emergency vehicles, and state patrol.

Bobby Williams, Spokane Fire Department, spoke about the 1/10 of 1% request before the voters on May 20th for a communications system.

The Problems

- Shortcomings in the System
 - Cannot talk via radios to each other
 - Dead spots where radios will not work
 - Reliability
 - No current capacity to notify public of emergencies ("Reverse 9-1-1")
 - 9-1-1 overland
 - No Crime Check
 - Limited/No funding
- Biggest Challenge is FCC Requires Changes (due to new technology)
 - Radio system conversions required by 2012 (narrow banding)
- Specific shortcomings
 - Lack of radio coverage
 - Lack of radio frequencies
 - Lack of interoperability among emergency response agencies
 - Lack of sufficient backup/redundancy
 - Lack of data integration
 - Lack of investment in infrastructure
 - Aging equipment & incompatibility with new technology

FCC Requirement Changes

- FCC has required the conversion to narrow band by the end of 2012
- Affects all VHF/UHF systems in U.S.
- Cost prohibited

Chief Williams said that to meet all technology & operational requirements, it would greatly enhance coverage, capacity and features. Because of the costs (\$40 - \$50 million), the District is taking this on a regional approach and that there is no short term solution.

Sergeant Clint Gibson commented on the need for a Reverse 9-1-1 and dead spots. He gave the examples of the shooting incident involving Officer Taj Wilkerson in October, 2007, and two weeks ago the City had a stolen car which was tracked to a neighborhood on East Mission and Aladdin. Sergeant Gibson explained that Reverse 9-1-1 would have been great because it would have been able to send out a call to all residents in that area, including the schools, to put everybody in lockdown. Crime Check will refer citizens to police officers. Crime Check will not take reports for the City of Liberty Lake, but will assist in entering our runaways, stolen cars, impounded vehicles, as well as repossessed cars.

Chuck Hafner spoke on behalf of the "Be Safe Emergency Communications" Committee, and asked if the number 456-2233 sounded familiar. He said 456-2233 was established in the 70's and that every student had it memorized because it was the Crime Check number. Mr. Hafner said that citizens have not had Crime Check since

2005. Mr. Hafner stated the Committee was committed to inform as many citizens as possible regarding how important it is to pass this Emergency Proposal. "We are hitting all municipalities in Spokane County to make sure it is passed. I am the one who is making sure the money is raised to do a campaign, but I am also the volunteer person. I am not elected, but I get to be the one to go out to make sure this thing happens. We are all working together to make sure we get this proposal passed. In order for us to get our goals completed, you got to give law enforcement, fire, and emergency personnel, the proper tools to do the job. For every \$100 you spend, \$.10 will go to this project. This proposal is far greater and more important for our safety and welfare than a bond issue, or a levy, because if we don't have safety, we don't have those other things within our particular City. Sometimes we have to reach into our back pocket and say if the priority, even though it is another tax, is for the safety and welfare of our community and for us, then it is important."

Other Requirements to Communications Systems

- Crime Check Funding (24-7)
- Cover projected future 911 Funding

Cannot be diverted to any other thing

- 10 year Sunset Clause
- Oversight Committee
- Administered by Spokane County Emergency Committee Board
- Spend a dime to solve a crime (\$25,000 needs to be raised)

Mark Richards, County Commissioner, thanked the City Council for the opportunity to make the presentation. He said it is not an easy task for the County Commissioners, in terms of advocating to citizens that they tax themselves. But, if the City Council believes that public safety of citizenry is the number one responsibility (inaudible) then it becomes easier to adopt this proposal as a priority. The County Commissioners indicated that if there were any questions to call. They asked for support of the ballot measure to communicate with the City of Liberty Lake citizens, the message of significance, and the crisis we will face if this does not pass. The Reverse 9-1-1 upgrades are not only important to prepare the infrastructure, but are necessary.

After discussions on dead spots and the amount of repeaters needed, if costs of using Crime Check will be a phase of the 1/10 of 1% or will the City of Liberty Lake be billed for those kinds of costs, if the sunset clause should not be put on a community response team, and the data used to prepare the report, Council Member Jenkins asked the County Commissioners "Why are you not cutting or limiting services before you submit this to the voters?" Commissioner Richards said that more than half of the population this region is inside of the incorporated area, so when you are looking at calls for service it is a regional issue, and the issue is the notion of why don't you fund that out of existing resources. We looked at putting money aside for the County's portion of the share, and asking other jurisdictions to look at their budgets to see if they could absorb some increase in the expanded project.

Discussions continued on using other reserves, being a regional priority, portables and mobiles for public safety agencies but not available for transit and public works, creating partnerships and agreements with federal and state law enforcement agencies,

speaking to U.S. Senators and Representatives (federal mandate) regarding a portion of sales for local governments, Spokane being a recipient of a \$2.5 million grant, Spokane County having a Library Proposition on the ballot, and a criminal justice high priority proposition.

Council Member Schuler thanked everyone for stating their position, and that biggest failure of 9-1-1, as a city and government is safety. As a city and government, we should take a strong issue with that. Commissioner (?) jurisdictions need to respond quickly, "if we fail to comply by 2013, the FCC directions to narrow band by midnight January 1, 2013 fine us up to \$8000 per day/per counter."

Mayor Van Orman called for a break at 8:55 p.m. for 10 minutes. Meeting reconvened at 9:06 p.m.

PROCLAMATION

Cynthia Smith, City Clerk, read a proclamation claiming the month of March 2008 as "March for Wheels" for the City of Liberty Lake.

REAPPOINTMENT OF EXISTING PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Doug Smith stated all the Planning Commissioners wished to be reappointed to their appointments. Mayor Van Orman stated wishing to be reappointed to the Planning Commission were: Steve McElvain, Bill Jeckle, Jeff Hoover, Sheila Bell, and Stan Jochim. She stated Dan Dunn will be moved up from an adjunct member and one to two adjunct positions will be added at the next City Council Meeting. Council Member Crump moved to confirm the Planning Commissioners, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Says. Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion accepted. In Favor: Unanimous; Opposed: None

ACTION ITEMS

Council Member Crump moved to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Jenkins. The Consent Agenda included vouchers totaling \$260,600.01, and the Professional Services Agreement with Welch Comer & Associates for the Appleway / Molter Road Signal Construction Phase. Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion Accepted. In Favor: Unanimous; Opposed: None

Check sequences were: 9249 through 9291
Payroll check sequences were: 4400 through 4456

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 08-116 – A Resolution Providing for Disposal of Certain Inventory Items Deemed to Be Surplus and No Longer Used by the City of Liberty Lake, Washington

Mayor Pro Tem Sayrs moved to approve Resolution No. 08-116, seconded by Council Member Langford.

After discussions on the process and the appropriation of the goods, Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion Passed. In Favor: Unanimous; Opposed: None

Resolution No. 08-118 – A Resolution of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington Clarifying Expenditures for Library/Community Center Project

Council Member Crump moved to approve Resolution No. 08-118, seconded by Council Member Langford.

Discussions continued on if there would be any conflicts with the recent Ordinance passed on Wednesday, March 5th, the Resolution was a useless piece of legislation, concern over additional cost, if the definition changed the City of Liberty Lake would be fiscally responsible, and if there would be a cost over run it would happen in 2010. Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion Passed. In Favor: Council Member Olander, Council Member Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem Sayrs, Council Member Owens, and Council Member Crump; Opposed: Council Member Schuler, and Council Member Langford.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

Spring Retreat Schedule

Doug Smith discussed the Spring Retreat. After discussions on possible dates in April, Mayor Van Orman stated that Ann Swenson will contact all City Council members via email to get a consensus on what dates are available (off site - Saturday).

Library/Community Center

Doug Smith showed renderings of the Library/Community Center site that were submitted by the architects Bernardo-Willis. Doug Smith stated the architect does not anticipate a model of the site, but the rendering will be available on the website tomorrow.

UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS

None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Frank Boyle addressed the issue of going to people and asking for money. He said, "As a citizen I consider it a responsibility and duty to make a decision as to what I think is the most important things as for as my taxes go to a spend. I like to see those types of things on the ballot. We, as citizens, have got to make those decisions, and we need bodies like we have here tonight to explain to us the necessity for their particular department (inaudible) and the consequences

and take a vote on it - say up, or down, and move on to the next step. Individuals need to make the decision for themselves."

Margaret Barnes, 22821 E Clearwater Lane, Liberty Lake, gave thanks to Council Member Owens for all her work and getting all the priceless furniture for the library when the Friends of the Library had no money. She also directed citizens to the new website for the Library/Community Center www.yes4libertylake.org.


Council Member Schuler said, "I appreciate the comments because as City Council Members, we are representing the citizens and their wishes for the community."

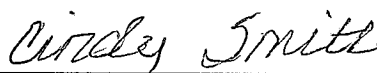
Council Member Owens asked the City Attorney, "Is it okay for Council Members to personally advocate support of the bond issue by making donations to the yes4libertylake.org campaign or is that inappropriate?" City Attorney stated he and the Mayor are currently addressing that issue and will give an update at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion, the Meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

These Minutes are approved this 18th day of March, 2008.


Wendy Van Orman, Mayor
City of Liberty Lake


Notes and Transcription by Cindy Smith, City Clerk. This Council Meeting was audio taped. Anyone desiring to listen to the recording may contact the City Clerk.